

Tompkins County
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**TOMPKINS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Alice Cole, R.N., M.S.E.
Public Health Director

June 18, 1998

401 Harris B. Dates Drive
Ithaca, New York 14850-1385

Dear Tobacco Retailer,

As you know, Tompkins County Local Law 3, prohibiting self-service sale of tobacco products, goes into effect on September 1, 1998. This Law requires that all tobacco products (including cigarette, cigars, smokeless tobacco, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, etc.) be displayed in locations where customers are unable to handle them until after a purchase has been made.

To do your part as a tobacco retailer, you must remove all self-service tobacco displays from counter tops, floors, aisles, etc. These displays can be placed behind checkout counters or be replaced with ones that lock. Check with the Division of Environmental Health at the Health Department if you are unsure if you are in compliance.

The enclosed information is being distributed to retail outlets where tobacco products are sold in Tompkins County. This information was compiled to assist you in complying with the law. Included are a copy of the Law and answers to possible questions you may have about the Law.

The Health Department applauds your commitment to keeping tobacco out of the hands of children and to ATUPA (The Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act, which prohibits the sale of tobacco products to anyone under the age of 18). This Local Law will only make ATUPA compliance easier, which will benefit you and your employees. By increasing sale time, the likelihood that cashiers will ask for identification increases. Research has shown that removing self-service displays will decrease the likelihood of shoplifting and discourage

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